Association of Cardiovascular Surgeons of Ukraine, National Amosov Institute of Cardiovascular Surgery of the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine, Shupyk National Healthcare University of Ukraine, Professional Edition Eastern Europe, Editorial office of the Ukrainian Journal of Cardiovascular Surgery

congratulate the participants of the XXVII All-Ukrainian Congress of Cardiac Surgeons of Ukraine!

The first All-Ukrainian Congress of Cardiac Surgeons of Ukraine was held in 1993. Traditionally, it is held annually in different cities. In May 2014, the professional forum had to be hosted by Donetsk, and it was the first time when it was canceled... In 2020, all the events were canceled due to the pandemic. In 2021, the congress was held in a hybrid format (offline and online).

Then the year 2022 came. We hoped that COVID-19 would no longer interfere with the live professional communication of our specialists. However, on February 24, the whole Ukrainian land has lost peace due to full-scale invasion launched by russia. We live and work in the conditions of the fierce war. Our healthcare professionals continue to work in the occupied and blocked territories, in destroyed hospitals, under shelling and bombing, with acute shortage of medications, devices and equipment. As of May 14, 616 healthcare facilities in Ukraine have been destroyed, and 101 of them are unrecoverable. In the liberated cities and settlements, Ukrainians are trying to bring back their opportunities as soon as possible, and, most importantly, to restore the atmosphere of normal life.

The Association of Cardiovascular Surgeons of Ukraine has decided to hold its next congress not despite the war, but rather in the sake of our absolute confidence in an unconditional victory. The venue is the Hero City Chernihiv which has been under siege and suffered constant missile strikes and bombing for more than a month since the beginning of the war. As a token of support for Chernihiv residents and doctors of Chernihiv region, the event, as planned, takes place here. The city, which is almost 70 % destroyed, comes back to life, works and hosts guests.

We wish all our colleagues fruitful work, inspiration, health, and, most importantly, our unconditional VICTORY!

Glory to invincible Ukraine!

This issue of the Journal was created in the first month of the war, in the hostile environment of Kyiv, under shelling and bombing. Some of our authors and employees were in the occupied territories, in the active combat zones.

